
Mission

To maintain and improve the quality of the medical and legal investigation of death as it relates to the public health, safety and administration of justice.

Business Strategy

The Medical Examiner's Office is concerned primarily with the investigation of violent, sudden, unexpected and suspicious deaths. Some death investigations with autopsy examinations are performed for the better understanding of the disease process. The knowledge gained in this manner assists the members of the decedent's family to take appropriate preventative measures. The complexity and sophistication of these procedures will vary in different situations. The investigation of death shall include scene examination, gathering the pertinent information surrounding the death followed by a thorough body examination including autopsy examination, when indicated. The post-mortem examination may include microscopic study and chemical-toxicological analysis of body tissues and fluids. Based on these procedures, the Medical Examiner certifies the cause and the manner of death. In an effort to supply quality, cost-effective medical examiner services to Seminole County residents, we have for the past three years, participated in an interlocal agreement with Volusia County Government. This agreement provides the facility, equipment and personnel necessary to perform all legally required medical examiner services on behalf of Seminole County.

Objectives

Maintain a high caliber of medical and legal investigations of death by developing constructive guidelines defining the quality of services rendered.

Teach forensic pathology and death investigation to law enforcement personnel, paramedics and other related medical personnel.

Promote inter-agency cooperation for effective and smooth functioning of the Medical Examiner's Office. This is accomplished by the establishment of a medium in which companion agencies come together to exchange technical and professional information and offer their expertise as it relates to the death investigation process. Also, the Medical Examiner must be readily available to answer questions and to participate in case discussions with the authorities.

Attend scientific sessions at which papers discussing new developments and research projects in all forensic sciences are presented.

Provide unbiased expert testimony in a court of law regarding autopsy findings.

Performance Measures

	FY 00/01 Actual	FY 01/02 Estimated	FY 02/03 Estimated
Autopsies	186	209	225
Investigations	278	336	300
Visual Exams	9	10	15
Cremation Approvals	1,012	1,052	1,300
Preregistrations	304	377	200

Department: COMMUNITY SERVICES

Seminole County

Division:

Section: MEDICAL EXAMINER

FY 2002/03

	2000/01 Actual Expenditures	2001/02 Adopted Budget	2002/03 Adopted Budget	% Change 2002/03 over 2001/02
EXPENDITURES:				
Personal Services	0	0	0	
Operating Services	269,700	326,250	326,250	0%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	
Debt Service	0	0	0	
Grants and Aid	0	0	0	
Reserves/Transfers	0	0	0	
Subtotal Operating	269,700	326,250	326,250	0%
Capital Improvements	0	0	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	269,700	326,250	326,250	0%
FUNDING SOURCE(S)				
Criminal Justice Trust Fund	269,700	326,250	326,250	0%
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCE(S)	269,700	326,250	326,250	0%
Full Time Positions	0	0	0	
Part-Time Positions	0	0	0	

New Programs and Highlights for Fiscal Year 2002/03

Fee for service contract with Volusia County Government Medical Examiner for \$1,450 per autopsy performed; 225 autopsies projected in FY 02/03.

Capital Improvements	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total Project Cost	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Impact	0	0	0	0	0